From: Simmons, Denise
To: John Roberts
Subject: Re: HP Resolution
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 10:15:47 AM

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of passionate discussion in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that this will only appear on the City Council's April 23 agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it. We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online this Thursday evening around 5:30 pm.

There have been numerous passionate op-eds, emails, and social media posts both in favor of and in opposition to this resolution - yet I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this up for consideration unless and until a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 23 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: John Roberts <jwrhuron@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 10:07 AM
To: City Council
Subject: HP Resolution

Dear Mayor McGovern, Vice Mayor Devereaux, and Cambridge City Councilors: I write in support of the resolution to be brought before the Council on April 23 calling for an end to Cambridge's contracting with the Hewlett Packard Corporation, which provides much of the technology that controls the mechanisms for Israel's military occupation and colonization of the Palestinian People.

In 2009 I went on a fifteen-person delegation from Cambridge to Bethlehem, Palestine. The purpose of the trip was to establish a Cambridge-Bethlehem people to people relationship and

we carried resolution-greetings from our Mayor and City Council. That trip resulted in the creation of the Cambridge Bethlehem People to Project that led to a variety of visitations, trips and projects between the two cities which exists to this day.

Through this relationship we have witnessed the brutality of the Israeli colonization and military occupation of the Palestinian homeland and the continuing confiscation of their land through illegal settlements, construction of a separation wall on their land, and plethora of checkpoints, which separates towns and villages from each other and often farmers from their land.

By international law, people living under occupation have the right to resist, and Palestinian civil society is doing so through its call to support its non-violent Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign.

Cambridge played a major role in challenging apartheid South Africa when it supported the workers who challenged Polaroid's development and sale of products that provided the mechanisms for the pass book system and others means to surveille and control the Black population. As parents we cheered when our kids at CRLS took up the Polaroid fight and the South African anti apartheid campaign played a major role in their education. They talk about it to this day.

In that spirit of the Polaroid campaign, and as people committed to Human Rights, we must now challenge the corporation that is providing Israel with the surveillance and security tools to maintain the occupation of the Palestinian people. Cambridge must take a stand for human rights by refusing to support the Hewlett Packard Corporation.

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